



Maryland Weekly Influenza Surveillance Activity Report

A summary of influenza surveillance indicators reported to DHMH for the week ending January 28, 2017

Prepared by the Infectious Disease Epidemiology and Outbreak Response Bureau
Infectious Disease Bureau – Prevention and Health Promotion Administration
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The data presented in this document are provisional and subject to change as additional reports are received.

SUMMARY

During the week ending January 28, 2017, influenza-like illness (ILI) intensity in Maryland was **MODERATE** and there was **WIDESPREAD** geographic activity. The proportion of outpatient visits for ILI reported by Sentinel Providers increased from last week, while the proportion reported by Maryland Emergency Departments decreased slightly. The proportion of MRITS respondents reporting ILI also decreased slightly. The proportion of specimens testing positive for influenza at clinical laboratories increased for the third straight week. A total of 78 specimens tested positive for influenza at the DHMH lab – most were influenza Type A (H3). Ninety-nine hospitalizations and 7 respiratory outbreaks were reported. Nationally, influenza activity remained high.

[Click here to visit our influenza surveillance web page](#)

ILI Intensity Levels

Minimal

Low

✓ Moderate

High

Influenza Geographic Activity

No Activity

Sporadic

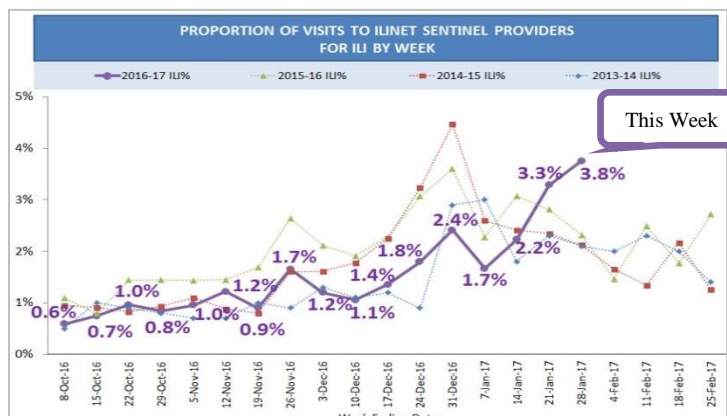
Local

Regional

✓ Widespread

ILINet Sentinel Providers

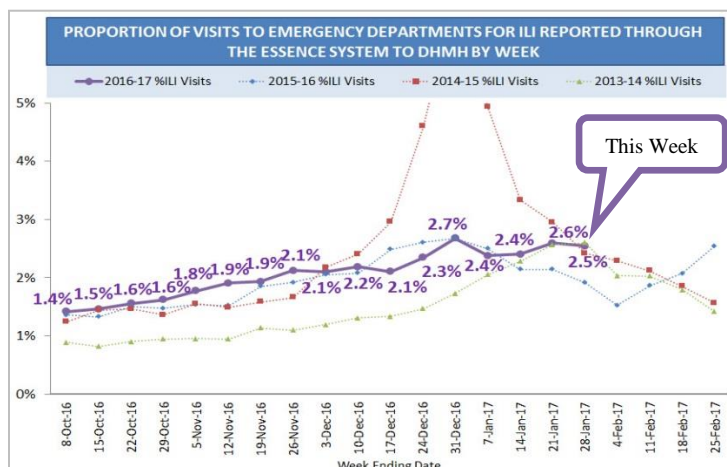
Thirty-six sentinel providers reported a total of 6,895 visits this week. Of those, 259 (3.8%) were visits for ILI. This is **above** the Maryland baseline of **2.2%**.



ILI Visits To Sentinel Providers By Age Group	This Week Number (%)	Last Week Number (%)	Season Number (%)
Age 0-4	48 (19%)	50 (22%)	590 (28%)
Age 5-24	101 (39%)	79 (35%)	770 (36%)
Age 25-49	59 (23%)	48 (21%)	417 (20%)
Age 50-64	30 (12%)	28 (12%)	222 (10%)
Age ≥ 65	21 (8%)	23 (10%)	135 (6%)
Total	259 (100%)	228 (100%)	2134 (100%)

Visits to Emergency Departments for ILI

Emergency Departments in Maryland reported a total of 45,907 visits this week through the [ESSENCE surveillance system](#). Of those, 1,166 (2.5%) were visits for ILI.



ILI Visits To Emergency Departments By Age Group	This Week Number (%)	Last Week Number (%)	Season Number (%)
Age 0-4	248 (21%)	283 (24%)	5206 (32%)
Age 5-24	349 (30%)	353 (29%)	4359 (27%)
Age 25-49	314 (27%)	310 (26%)	3852 (24%)
Age 50-64	149 (13%)	142 (12%)	1619 (10%)
Age ≥ 65	106 (9%)	111 (9%)	1193 (7%)
Total	1166 (100%)	1199 (100%)	16229 (100%)

Neighboring states' influenza information:

Delaware <http://dhss.delaware.gov/dph/epi/influenzahome.html>

District of Columbia <http://doh.dc.gov/service/influenza>

Pennsylvania <http://www.health.pa.gov/My%20Health/Diseases%20and%20Conditions/I-L/Pages/Influenza.aspx#.V-LtaPkrJD8>

Virginia <http://www.vdh.virginia.gov/epidemiology/influenza-flu-in-virginia/influenza-surveillance/>

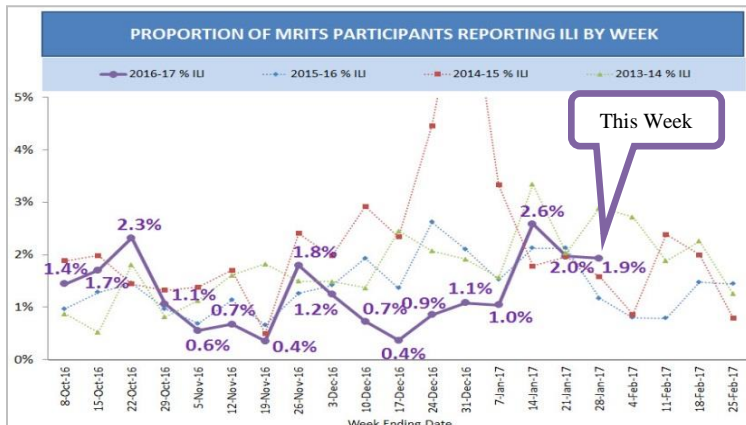
West Virginia <http://dhhr.wv.gov/oeps/disease/flu/Pages/fluSurveillance.aspx>

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Community-based Influenza Surveillance (MRITS)

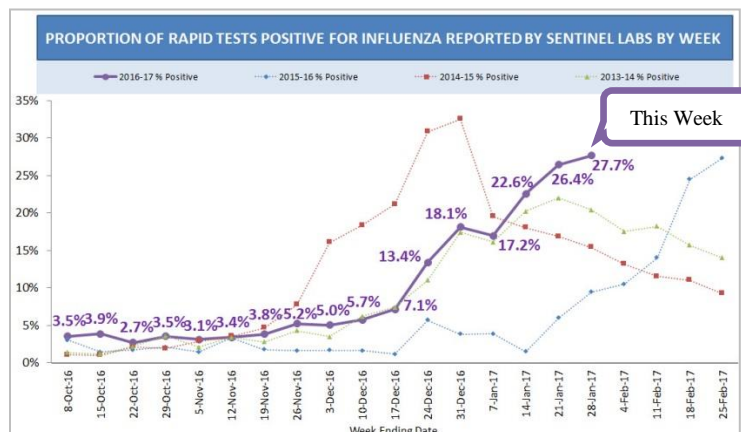
MRITS is the Maryland Resident Influenza Tracking System, a weekly survey for influenza-like illness (ILI). A total of 570 residents responded to the [MRITS survey](#) this week. Of those, 11 (1.9%) reported having ILI and missing a cumulative 36 days of regular daily activities.



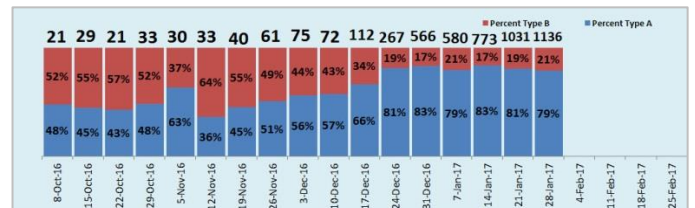
MRITS Respondents Reporting ILI By Age Group	This Week Number (%)	Last Week Number (%)	Season Number (%)
Age 0-4	--	--	4 (3%)
Age 5-24	3 (27%)	1 (8%)	34 (28%)
Age 25-49	5 (45%)	5 (42%)	33 (27%)
Age 50-64	1 (9%)	3 (25%)	29 (24%)
Age ≥ 65	2 (18%)	3 (25%)	21 (17%)
Total	11 (100%)	12 (100%)	121 (100%)

Clinical Laboratory Influenza Testing

Fifty-seven clinical laboratories reported performing 4,108 influenza diagnostic tests, mostly rapid influenza diagnostic tests (RIDTs). Of those, 1,136 (27.7%) were positive for influenza. Of those testing positive, 896 (78.9%) were influenza Type A and 240 (21.1%) were influenza Type B. The [reliability of RIDTs](#) depends largely on the conditions under which they are used. False-positive (and true-negative) results are more likely to occur when the disease prevalence in the community is low, which is generally at the beginning and end of the influenza season and during the summer.

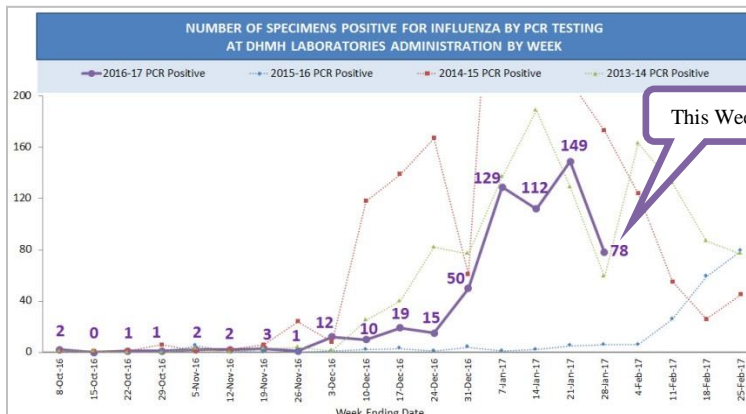


Positive Rapid Flu Tests by Type	This Week Number (%)	Last Week Number (%)	Season Number (%)
Type A	896 (79%)	830 (81%)	3802 (78%)
Type B	240 (21%)	201 (19%)	1078 (22%)
Total	1136 (100%)	1031 (100%)	4880 (100%)



State Laboratories Administration Influenza Testing

The DHMH Laboratories Administration performed a total of 165 PCR tests for influenza and 78 (47.3%) specimens tested positive for influenza. Of those testing positive, 69 (88.5%) were positive for Type A (H3), 2 (2.6%) were positive for Type A (H1), and 7 (9.0%) were positive for influenza Type B (Yamagata). PCR testing is more reliable than RIDT. The DHMH testing identifies subtypes of influenza A, information that is not available from the RIDT results. The table below summarizes results by type and subtype.



Positive PCR Tests by Type (Subtype)	This Week Number (%)	Last Week Number (%)	Season Number (%)
Type A (H1)	2 (3%)	4 (3%)	21 (4%)
Type A (H3)	69 (88%)	141 (95%)	528 (90%)
Type B (Victoria)	--	--	5 (1%)
Type B (Yamagata)	7 (9%)	4 (3%)	32 (5%)
Total	78 (100%)	149 (100%)	586 (100%)

Where to get an influenza vaccination

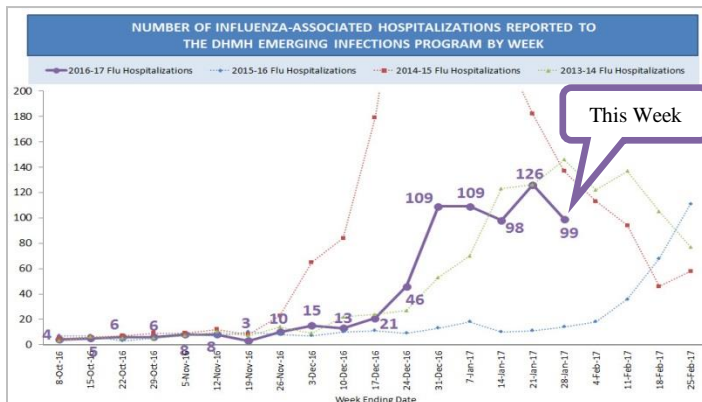
Interested in getting a flu vaccine for the 2016-17 influenza season? Go to <http://phpa.dhmm.maryland.gov/influenza/Pages/getvaccinated.aspx> and click on your county/city of residence. You will be redirected to your local health department website for local information on where to get your flu vaccine.

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Influenza-associated Hospitalizations

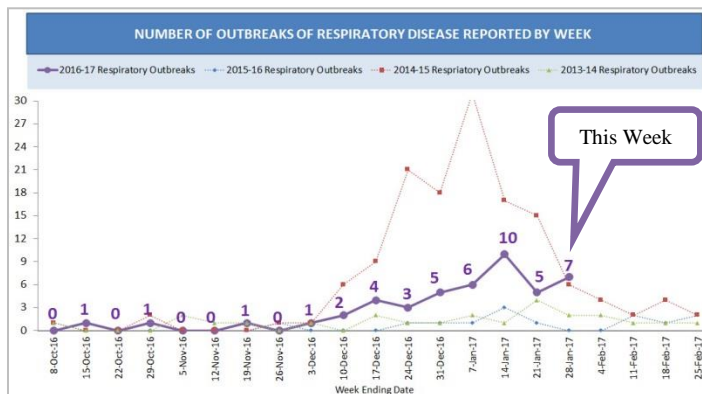
A total of 99 hospitalizations were reported this week. (A person with an overnight hospital stay along with a positive influenza test of any kind, e.g., RIDT or PCR, is considered an “influenza-associated hospitalization” for purposes of influenza surveillance.)



Influenza-Associated Hospitalizations by Age Group	This Week Number (%)	Last Week Number (%)	Season Number (%)
Age 0-4	5 (5%)	4 (3%)	31 (5%)
Age 5-17	4 (4%)	8 (6%)	31 (5%)
Age 18-24	3 (3%)	2 (2%)	13 (2%)
Age 25-49	9 (9%)	10 (8%)	63 (9%)
Age 50-64	20 (20%)	22 (17%)	131 (19%)
Age ≥ 65	58 (59%)	80 (63%)	417 (61%)
Total	99 (100%)	126 (100%)	686 (100%)

Outbreaks of Respiratory Disease

There were 7 respiratory outbreaks reported to DHMH this week. (Disease outbreaks of any kind are reportable in Maryland. Respiratory outbreaks may be reclassified once a causative agent is detected, e.g., from ILI to influenza.)



Respiratory Outbreaks by Type	This Week Number (%)	Last Week Number (%)	Season Number (%)
Influenza	4 (57%)	3 (60%)	26 (57%)
Influenza-like Illness	3 (43%)	1 (20%)	14 (30%)
Pneumonia	--	1 (20%)	6 (13%)
Other Respiratory	--	--	--
Total	7 (100%)	5 (100%)	46 (100%)

National Influenza Surveillance (CDC)

During week 4 (January 22-28, 2017), influenza activity increased in the United States.

- Viral Surveillance:** The most frequently identified influenza virus subtype reported by public health laboratories during week 4 was influenza A (H3). The percentage of respiratory specimens testing positive for influenza in clinical laboratories increased.
- Pneumonia and Influenza Mortality:** Due to data processing problems, the National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS) mortality surveillance data for the week ending January 14, 2015 (week 2) will not be published this week.
- Influenza-associated Pediatric Deaths:** Seven influenza-associated pediatric deaths were reported.
- Influenza-associated Hospitalizations:** A cumulative rate for the season of 20.3 laboratory-confirmed influenza-associated hospitalizations per 100,000 population was reported.
- Outpatient Illness Surveillance:** The proportion of outpatient visits for influenza-like illness (ILI) was 3.9%, which is above the national baseline of 2.2%. All 10 regions reported ILI at or above their region-specific baseline levels. New York City and 15 states experienced high ILI activity; Puerto Rico and 11 states experienced moderate ILI activity; 14 states experienced low ILI activity; 10 states experienced minimal ILI activity, and the District of Columbia had insufficient data.
- Geographic Spread of Influenza:** The geographic spread of influenza in Puerto Rico and 40 states was reported as widespread; Guam and nine states reported regional activity; the District of Columbia and one state reported local activity; and the U.S. Virgin Islands reported no activity.

